



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2009 Biennium

Bill #	SB0452	Title:	Working forests, ranches, and watersheds program
Primary Sponsor:	Williams, Carol	Status:	As Introduced

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

	<u>FY 2008 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2009 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2010 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2011 Difference</u>
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$16,675	\$16,675	\$17,092	\$17,519
State Special Revenue	\$8,325	\$8,325	\$8,533	\$8,747
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact-General Fund Balance	(\$16,675)	(\$16,675)	(\$17,092)	(\$17,519)

Description of Fiscal Impact:

SB 452 creates a Montana Working Forests, Ranches, Farms, and Watersheds Program and is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact to the state.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

1. This bill establishes the Montana working forests, ranches, farms, and watersheds program.
2. This bill establishes a working forests, ranches, farms, and watershed commission and administratively attaches it to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC).
3. The bill does not indicate how often the seven member commission will meet.
4. State agencies may submit applications for projects that conserve working forests, ranches, farms, and watersheds which include a management plan that demonstrates how the land will be maintained long-term or permanently. The commission may approve loans and grants to state agencies to fund acquisitions and acquisition transaction costs.

5. Conservation includes family ranches, farms, and other agricultural operations that meet the provisions of Title 76, part 6, MCA. Acceptable management plans include U.S. Department of Agriculture land conservation plans.
6. The commission members would be reimbursed for per diem pursuant to 2-18-501 through 2-18-503, MCA. Those costs are estimated at \$4,000 for FY 2008 and FY 2009.
7. Operating costs are estimated at \$21,000 for FY 2008 and FY 2009 to contract for expertise in the areas of loan, grant, marketing, state matching funds would be necessary.
8. A 2.5% inflation has been applied to FY 2010 and FY 2011.

Department of Agriculture (AGR)

9. AGR - Agricultural Development Division staff may be required to complete grant or loan applications for this program. It is assumed that time spent on application development will fall within the scope of current staff duties.
10. This bill will have no fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture.

	<u>FY 2008 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2009 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2010 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2011 Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact:</u>				
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Personal Services	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,100	\$4,203
Operating Expenses	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,525	\$22,063
TOTAL Expenditures	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,625	\$26,266
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$16,675	\$16,675	\$17,092	\$17,519
State Special Revenue (02)	\$8,325	\$8,325	\$8,533	\$8,747
TOTAL Funding of Exp.	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,625	\$26,266
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>				
General Fund (01)	(\$16,675)	(\$16,675)	(\$17,092)	(\$17,519)
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$8,325)	(\$8,325)	(\$8,533)	(\$8,747)

*Sponsor's Initials*_____
*Date*_____
*Budget Director's Initials*_____
Date